

CHS CHECKUP



A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

July 24, 2000

NEWS BRIEFS

WAKE UP TO VERBAL JUDO

The next Wake-Up Wednesday will be this week, July 26. The topic is Verbal Judo, a communication technique. Leslie Gannon will pass along these skills the state police use to communicate calmly and clearly. The session will be from 8:30-10:30 a.m. in the Health Services Auditorium.

STATE FAIR NEXT MONTH

We're still looking for State Fair volunteers for the CHS booth. We especially need nurses to staff the body composition exhibit at the CHS Garden of Good Health. The fair runs from Aug. 17-27. Call the Office of Communications at 502-564-6786 for more information.



TIP OF
THE
WEEK

It has been estimated that 80 to 90 percent of disease in our society is caused by stress. Massage is an effective way to promote relaxation of muscles, increase circulation, and reduce tension. There are many types of massage: Swedish, deep tissue, shiatsu, reflexology, etc. With a little research you can find the method that is right for you and then relax and enjoy.

Kentucky Immunization Rate Ranked Third Best In U.S.

Kentucky's Immunization Program has been honored for having 88.6 percent of 2-year-old children immunized – the third best in the country.

"This is great recognition for the efforts of our health departments and private health care providers who work with children," Gov. Paul Patton said. "This calls attention to a very fundamental health factor that was included in our Early Childhood Initiative - immunizations for all children. We hope to do even better in the future."

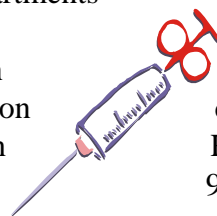
Gov. Patton included an improved immunization effort as part of the Early Childhood Initiative - known as KIDS NOW — that was approved by this year's General Assembly. The initiative provides \$4 million to purchase vaccines for underinsured children over the next two years.

The immunization honor was announced July 5 by Dr. Walt Orenstein, Director of the National

Immunization Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He presented a plaque to Sandra Gambescia, manager of Kentucky's Immunization Program, at the National Immunization Conference in Washington, D.C.

Vermont had the highest coverage with 90.7 percent; Rhode Island was second with 90.4 percent and Kentucky ranked third with 88.6 percent. That means that 88.6 percent of Kentucky 2-year-olds were up to date with their required immunizations. Kentucky's rate in 1994 was 80 percent.

Gambescia attributed the improvement to the Vaccines for Children Program, a federal program that makes vaccines available to Medicaid and uninsured children, a cooperative effort among local health departments, federally qualified health centers and private physicians and an increased public awareness of the importance of immunizations.



Message From Mars: Thank You

A big thank you to everyone in CHS for a super year from Miles Murphy in the Office of Program Support. Our challenge was to implement the MARS system on July 1, 1999 and close the year out in July 2000.

We were successful in accom-

plishing this challenge. This came about through the super team effort and individuals rising to meet the need of the tasks at hand.

Your efforts are appreciated. Thanks to each and everyone of you in participating in the successful year.



New Commission Members Appointed By Governor

A meeting of the newly appointed Kentucky Commission of Services and Supports for Individuals with Mental Retardation and Other Developmental Disabilities is scheduled for Monday, July 31, from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

The meeting will be held in the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation Services' Large Conference Room (A&B) on the fourth floor of 100 Fair Oaks Lane, Frankfort, Kentucky.

The Commission was created as a result of House Bill 144, which focuses on community-based assisted living services for individuals with mental retardation and other developmental disabilities. The commission will advise the Governor and Legislature on needed services for these Kentuckians. The state budget provides \$50 million to fund support programs over the next two years.



The funding will allow for the expansion of the Supports for Community Living Program, meaning that people with mental retardation may be placed in community residential settings. It will also assist people with mental retardation whose aging parents are no longer able to care for them.

All board members have been appointed to serve for a term expiring July 15, 2004. They are: **ZoeAnn Levin Yussman**, Prospect, representing the 3rd Congressional District; **Jennifer Howard**, Ashland, representing the 4th Congressional District; **Beverly Lynch**, Paducah, representing the 1st Congressional District;

Angela K. McManus, Bowling Green, representing the 2nd Congressional District; **Marsha Van Hook**, Somerset, representing the 5th Congressional District; **Scott Jones**, Lexington, representing the 6th Congressional District; **George H. Warren**, Henderson; **F. Roy Shirley**, Somerset; **Dale Bond**, Bowling Green; **H. James Richardson**, Louisville; **Patrick Kelley**, Taylorsville; and **Judi W. Gerding**, Fort Mitchell. ✓

Turn Those Computers Off This Week

One of those “network system outages” is planned July 24-26 for the CHR Building in Frankfort. CHS staff in the CHR Complex is being asked to shut down and turn off computers at the end of each of those three days.

The outage is planned because of the installation of network equipment during those days from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Retirement Receptions

MEDICAID

Reception July 27 honoring **Peggy Puckett**, Administrative Specialist, 30 years. 2-4 p.m. Cafeteria. (This is a change in location.) RSVP Arelene Fluegge or Debbie Smither.

INSPECTOR GENERAL

Reception July 28 honoring **Donald Nodler**, 28 years; **Raymond Lovitt**, 16 years; and **Sue Wood**, 27 years. All work in the Special Investigations Division; 2:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria.



Public Health milk inspectors recently received training on a new computerized inspection program, a Simplified Regulatory EM-POWER Kentucky project. The full implementation of these hand-held computers is scheduled for August.

The CHS Checkup is a newsletter for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services. Please direct contributions or comments to the Office of Communications, 502-564-6786. Printed with state funds.

